(b) and (c) Any person, including farmers can make an application in the prescribed form for grant of permit for establishment: of a rice mill by giving particulars regarding location, size and typs of the rice mill and such other particulars as may be prescribed.

(d) Working of modern rice-shelling machinery at present is as efficient as available in other parts of the world except for some special equipments needed for production of export quality rice.

Supply of verified seed of cotton in Andhra Pradesh

2110. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mixed variety of *cotten* crop is prevalent *in* Gungur and Prakasam Districts of Andhra Pradeh with out coinciding with any spocific variety;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor-

(c) what st:v~s are taken to supply cer-ed seeds in that area; and

(d) what is the share of certified seed in the total consumption in those dist ricts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There is no practiee of growing mixed variety of cotton crop in Guntur and Prakasam districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Slate Government arrange for supply of certified seeds in that area largely throwgn their State Seeds Corporation and Private Seeds Agencies.

(d) Share of certified seeds in these districts is about 30 per cent of total consumption of seed.

Adoption of orphaned children in Maha-rashtra

2111. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICUGULTU&E be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a UK-based Guru Missionary has offered to adout children orphaned by he Maha-ashtra earth-quake;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the sesons therefor; and

(c) what is Gavernments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRT ARVTND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. GURU Nanak Blind Missionsty Society, Londos, U.K. has offered to pro vide support to 25 children orphaned in the rec?nt earrhquak? in Maharashtra. Accrding to them the proposed support will include funding for education, boarding clothing, food and general expenses invatved with 'he upbringing of the childran.

(c) The matter is undar examination in consultation with Govermeat of ' Maharashtra.

Crention of National OB Grid

2112. MISS SAROJ KHAPAROE; Will the Minister of *AGRICLTURE* be pleased to state;

(a) whether the N.D.D.B, had planned for creattonr of a National Oil Grid ; and

(b) if so what is the present state of progress in relation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SPATE IN THE

ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINIS-. TER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI & KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sr. NDDB has planned for Creation of a National Oil Grid.

The programme envisages linking the major oilseeds producing areas with the

demand eentres by (i) creation of oil Storage capacity at strategic locations; (ii) establishing packaging stations across the country to pack edible oil; (iii) developing economical transport system to move oilseeds and oil from surplus to deficit zones. As part of this plan NDDB has created oil storage capacity of 2.31 lakh tonnes and oil packaging capacity of 2.53 lakh tonnes per annum. The grid related infrastructure would continue to develop over the years.

Appoinftntnt of operating Consultants to study State Farms Corporation of, India

2113. MISS SAROJ KHAPARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recently appointed operating Consultants for under taking a diagnostic study of State Farms Corporaton of India;

(b) if so, what were the recommenda tions of the consultants regarding the Stae Farms Corporation of India;

(c) whether Government have since implemented all those recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR). (a) and (b) Operating Consultants have been appointed under the Na-tional Seeds Project (NSP HI) for under-faing a diagnostic study of the State Farms Corporation of India. The major recommendations of the consultants relate to the following:—

(i) Identification and achievement of defined corporate objectives;

(ii) Strengthening of organisational structure with appropriate and skilled manpower.-

(iii) Identification and development of training needs and policy.

(iv) Development of appropriate short and long-rvrm productian, sales and marketing strategies.

(v) Development of improved systems of budgeting accounting and financial management.

(vi) Provision of performance ap~ praisa) system and operational reviews.

(c) and (d) Recommendations of the Operating Consultants wich require action on the part of Government relate to provision of financial assistance which is being madt.

Area under cotton cultivation

2114. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHAR-MA; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the largest area under cotton cultivation in the World;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its break-up State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cotton yield per hectare is lowest in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons to the low yield; and

(e) steps being taken to improve the yield?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total area under cotton culti-. vation in the country during 1992-93 is estimated at 75.43 lakh hectares. Its